



# NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

**TODD P. GRAVES**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## NITRO UPDATE

### **ST. JOSEPH MAN SENTENCED FOR ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF FIREARM**

**KANSAS CITY, Mo.** – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a St. Joseph, Mo., man was sentenced in federal court today for being a felon in possession of a firearm. The sentencing, Graves said, is the result of work completed by the NITRO Task Force.

**Dion M. Clark**, 24, of St. Joseph, Mo., was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Gary A. Fenner this afternoon to three years and one month in federal prison without parole.

On Nov. 21, 2003, **Clark** pleaded guilty to being a felon in possession of a firearm. By pleading guilty, **Clark** admitted that he was in possession of a Savage 12-gauge shotgun on June 21, 2003. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for anyone who has been convicted of a felony to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition. **Clark** has a 1994 criminal felony conviction for unlawful use of a weapon.

**Clark** originally was charged in a criminal complaint filed in federal court on Sept. 26, 2003, in Kansas City. The criminal complaint was later replaced by an indictment, which was returned by a federal grand jury on Oct. 7, 2003, in Kansas City.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney David A. Barnes. It was investigated by the NITRO Task Force and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. NITRO is the Northwest Missouri Interagency Team Response Operation, a joint law enforcement effort by the United States Attorney's Office and federal, state and local law enforcement agencies in the 16-county region.

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This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at [www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow](http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow)

